W R Mc Lennan

Claremont

Caterton

Victoria

W R Mc L

Lennan

Naturalist

October 46

Friday 15th. 5 am Turn out & go down to jetty as word was left at Hotel that the Nita was to leave for the Barwon river at daylight. Call Dehn on the way. Reach jetty no one on board, a few minutes after the Captain (Nalot) & crew came along. Dehn arrived later.

Get on board & underweigh by 6.30 am Tide favourable. A light easterly breeze & a smooth sea. Nothing of note till we reach Cape Jervis. A Brown Gannet & a few Crested Terns & couple of large flocks of Fairy Black Pigeons flying in from the north.

Anchor under Cape Jervis 11.30 am. The bottom of boat is very dirty so all hands go overboard & clean the copper.

Large flocks of Divers & Petrels constantly coming in from the north. Also Fairy Black Pigeons. Have dinner here. Breeze has freshened a bit & changed to south east.

After lunch we up anchor & go on to Somerset reaching there about 3.30 pm, anchor here for the night. 2 luggers & a small cutter also anchored here.

I go ashore & pay Capt Jardine an visit. Have a look around his Coconut plantation. The trees are doing fairly well & a fair number are coming into bearing. They are 6 years old

His Castor oil plantation was completely destroyed by caterpillars.

Some Cotton that he had planted turned out very well.

Poor old Mrs Jardine, she is not too well, age is beginning to tell on her.

Douglas Dawson passed through the pass about 8 pm on way South. Changsha also passed south.

Return on board 9 pm. Lights of a Steamer seen during night

Light east

Saturday 16th. Wake 4 am. Light land breeze
Made a start. Tide favourable. Passing Newcastle
bay the light of a Steamer at anchor could
be seen. We passed a dawn as she was getting
underway for the north.

Shortly after daybreak the first migrate a
Pectoral Sandpiper was seen coming in from the
north. From then on single birds of this species
frequently seen. At sunrise the single Blue
Heralding seen coming in from north & up till
9 am single birds of both these species were
frequently seen.

9 am the first flocks of Bronze Cuckoo Pigeon were
seen.

Ox X reef covered Reef Herons & other species
of birds noted.

A flock of Terns & Noddies seen in the distance
after passing Escape river.

Terns of several species seen all along reefs
Pass between Bushy is & mainland. Good E breeze
Anchor Hannibals 4 30 pm So anchor to shoot

some Torres straits Pigeon. Market 2 shot 24
Barred shouldered Doves Bronz crowned Pigeon, Varied
Honeyeaters, Mackays Honeyeaters Dronyos Blue a
Shining Flycatchers Rufous fantails noted in numbers
Also Reef Herons, Osprey, Black noped Graceful
Crested Terns.
Go on board 5.30 & start off again 5.45 pm
Golden plover on board it was picked up in
water alongside of boat.
Thunder & lightning to westward
About sunset a Blue Flycatcher flew onto the rigging
it was quite about exhausted. One of the boys
frightened it & it flew off again heading for
the mainland.
The Golden Plover also flew off but headed out
to sea.
A few Drongos seen after leaving Hannibals &
flock after flock of Torres straits Pigeons
Kept on going all night Very little breeze, sea
very calm. Heading for Darnley is so there is some
cargo for there. Night cool

Sunday 17th. Woke during night just as we anchor'd at Forbes is, hear an annoying bark from a tiger anchored there. Soon go to sleep again. Wake at daylight. Boys now unloaded & we proceed on our way again. Head for Pearce river. Away out over reef flocks of terns & boobies can be seen busily steadfasting on shoals of small fish which were being attacked from below by larger fish.

A turtle seen, we try to get near enough in the launch to spear it; but it took fright & diving it came up again several times but only for a second.

Cross the reef to north of Courier heaven where there is a passage for shallow draft boats. Care has to be exercised to avoid the big rounded masses of Tiger head coral with which the reef is here dotted. A faint breeze came ruffling the water clear as green glass. reef alive with fish of all kinds. Coral formation & color exceeding beauty.

Part of old Courier which was wrecked here 20 years ago still showing above the surface.

A couple of hours later we were nearing entrance to Pierce. As the boat was headed for Lipon I asked the Captain where he intended to land us. He said on the beach. I pointed out that there was no water there & that I had told the horse boys (Jacks) that I would land some miles up the river.

Captain said that he had orders not to go up the river.

I then opened up & gave him a bit of my mind etc. At last I got him mild by saying that he was afraid to go up the river & that he was not fit to be in charge of a boat

He then said that he would go up the river & if the boat got stuck on a sandbank, he would land us where she stuck. I said right & she headed for mouth of river. He tried to put the boat up on the sea outside, but I made him stick to the right channel. I think he was a bit disappointed at not getting stuck on the outer bank

bet up by screw but a extra river. Tide about half flood & running in. The river has altered a lot since I was last here some years ago. We proceed slowly as it is very shallow in places on the sandbanks. The Captain has recovered his good humour & is busily on the lookout for the right channel. About 4 miles up it is very shallow & the boat just touched bottom on a bar.

Some natives camped here told me that Jambo was camped high up on the top crossing.

So right up to where I camped here some years ago about 9 miles from mouth. Run the boat alongside bank & land stores etc.

The boat leaves as soon as everything is landed.

Dick & I have lunch & I then go 2 miles up to top crossing. See a fine Causeway coming along the track it cuts me & dashes off to creek going along river further on I see a couple of women. No sign of Jambo Return to camp. A couple of boys had come along from somewhere up river. Said they come from Laura of the Orchids

Night copoh

Monday 18th. Slept well even though all my blankets were wet. Woke at 5 am Great bird chorus Breakfast & sent the 2 boys along track to beach, telling them to let the horse boy Sambo know that we were here. Shortly afterwards I set out myself to make sure of Sambo coming up. Take a short cut across first creek. Pair of Rifle birds appear to have an interest in this spot. Search all round for nest but do not locate it. Scrub Robin calling repeatedly close by. Go straight through scrub finge a little further on. Saw that Sambo & Jimmy had passed along up to where we are camped. Went a some distance further along track. Macleays Kingfisher frequently noted. Amongst Flowering Paperbarks & a white flowered scrub tree Honeysuckles of several kinds Dusky, Graceful, Yellow, Cockatoo, Friar birds were feeding. Calls of Rifle birds, Cat birds & Manucodes could be heard in scrub along river. Blue Mountains in all blooming trees. Drongos calling & flying over. Flocks of Shining Cabonnis constantly passing. White Cockys in tall Paperbarks

Tuesday 19th [illegible] have not a leaf
[illegible] yet just [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]

Thursday 21st [illegible] this morning. Ellen breakfast [illegible]
[illegible] Ellen [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[

I took up the pen & could only put
down a few words when I was
overcome with a violent pain in the
head above the
left temple. It came on me very sudden
ly. It was so severe, I was unable,
for some time, to speak. I felt
as if a knife was being run
out of that part of the
head. I was about to call assistance
in writing, but in a few minutes, as
suddenly as it came, it left me
about as it came & went out of my
head.
It was then I got the next part of the
in which it was stated that my wife
brother began, in the words which
which next was composed with great
ease catching in every way by breath of the
fire. The storm on my arms & legs was
very great as I had to hold the steel

Sat down again to wait for a shot at bird. In about an hour time it again came along. Try another shot: but it flew off apparently badly wounded. Came well out into the open & flew slightly. Stood on a tree at edge of a cut some distance up the river. Set out after it as I was; without hat, coat, shirt or boots, over half the distance & then have to go back & get dressed as the going was much too rough. Make another start & secure the bird.

I on up river to another shallow place
to ship off the male racoon.
Found a fine healthy Scorpion crawling
the shoulder of my coat, I don't know
how I escaped being stung by it.
Shot another Dove & Quail Piqua &
return to camp. Boys had not back from Wilson
Pando had been out up the river
a found a nest of large tailed Nighthawk
with 2 eggs.
Leon found a chim. bird. Pioneers
& go out to show boys our old Rifle fields
nest + [illegible] left [illegible]
with me to [illegible] nest. Leon [illegible]
& return to camp.
They came back at sunset did not find any nests.
Night [illegible]

Saturday 23rd

Running Creeks of Blue Mountains.

as Alligator mountain.

Thursday 25th. Left in again.

[illegible] Found the
[illegible] coal seam [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [

Ladder.

December 30th

formation with good coal seam showing

Specimen No 4

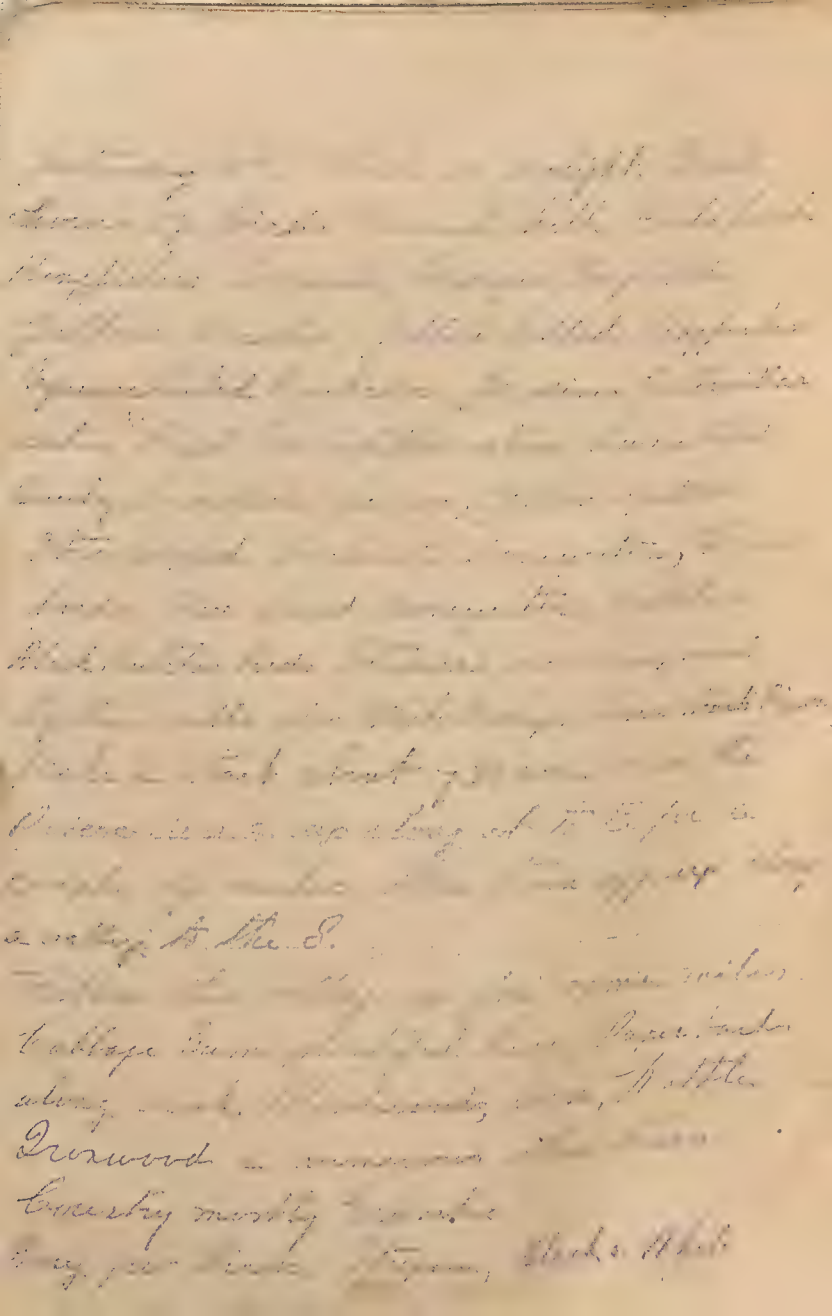
seam

Right [illegible]

days ago. for Linds

Monday 8th. Sisters complain [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] coming with
the doves about 10 am.
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
on Thursday. St Augustine at

Tuesday 9th. [illegible] improvement in Sisters
complaint. [illegible] Sitting Room.
Large room [illegible]
in good time
Too hot for [illegible]
St Augs.



Blue Cheeked Amadina visited us

Barred Amadina & Peaceful Doves, Leaches
Kingfisher Blue faced Honeyeater & Lovebird
seen near camp.

Sept 1st Sunday. Cool and windy
left Lodi. Crossed Little Chenoweth Creek
Yellow Jackets
Black Hawks
Corral
Make a
Opened on old Shoshone Indian
ground in Chenoweth Creek
hundred yards
this bird
12
in the Timber
it with
Blue Shells
Red Flowers
Blue
Camp heard nothing
Shoshone
Gun again on Bluff
Shoshone
Creek which

water in fjords.

Sunday 11 [illegible] Left at daylight [illegible]
of Toledo [illegible] Hard [illegible]
Hard [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]

Forge over always a good while
after the dinner a half past 2 of
them.

Went out at three & had dogs
search for a couple of miles but
could not find them returned
& then got back about five
about 8 1/2 miles & then had a
forward to reach a couple times
but could not find up them
Lunch. Started at 10 again
Forge out again & one of
the could find up their tracks
crossing the road. Returned
1.45 pm & rested that the
dogs found them across

Thursday 29th Up at daylight
& fed all early start. Splendid
run on the range.
Had dinner on Rundle creek, about
4pm. Nothing of note on way
home had supper at the camp
& set away with my Chinese
Everything in home bound
explored to the camp
Fast reading a good book
Had a rest & afternoon on
cutting timber for a small
[illegible] birds eating on
wonders waggon road camp

Tuesday 26th Feb. [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [

Talk three men by the lake had left in a pirogue like the one we had flown to from camp as before. The male flew steadily away when startled, circling. ... the female hastened after, ... out of sight. I watched him ... flight & saw him to a tall dead tree which appeared to have a couple of holes in it. I expect he will use a bird flew from it. He flew circling with flapping wings in a fairly circular path over the top of upright limb which was broken off. The male arrived calling, as before. I made friends him a raw fish in the pirogue to lake previously noted & disappeared from sight. Made no more efforts again before dark.

December.

[illegible] remains
[illegible] calling
during the night. [illegible] Kinds as
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Gulf [illegible]
made called [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
dollars was [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] female [illegible] [illegible]
I must stay to have a shot
at shooting the [illegible]. [illegible]
about [illegible] [illegible] around a
30 ft above tops of nearby trees
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
against the dead tree [illegible] I
climbed up [illegible], but could
go no further as the dead tree
a roost would [illegible] was
very active & perforated with
[illegible] of holes & termites
I believe a good perch would

December

Thursday 2nd Put in many prospecting middle creeks of creek; results were not good only a few fine colors to the pick. Only came across 1 color of any depth; could not get to bed rock on bottom.

Afternoon prospecting left side of bottom end of claim could not get bottom too much water.

Panned off 5 pans from surface down as I could get through gravel 7 coarse colors.

Dug out some good pans of dirt but no gold showing in them had another look at the pans that I got out of gravel & discovered they were full of gold. The by me about 1/8 oz. might should have got all that gold in the bottom but I got a good deal of it. I also noticed a vein in body of stone

Friday 8th, Pack up & get ready to
take a sail to Cape Dalmouth.
Men on early board to make a start
but were called back by returns, it was
supposed that we might have to Remain
here; but about 10 o'clock a few more
ships of Squad that is joined us
with an Ordnance Store ship in which
we embarked for we anchored near
Cape Cape & waited orders.
Spent most of time on Deck trying to
land and but failed.
Left
Cape early
Started it was about midnight &
continued till morning.

Saturday 4th. Spent some time
in useless discussion as to
what was the best thing to do

Sunday 6th. Broke camp early
started but soon struck trouble
What appeared to be level
open country from top of range
was heavily timbered. Blocked
by deep creeks & gullies which
ran in all directions. Could
not strike a leading spur on
any of them.
Between us & top of range
by midday & at a block on
a big schist cañon.
Turn out for dinner. Go
through scrub & strike main
creek which has running a strong
stream of water. Follow down
a bit & see open country on
other side, can even have
to start & cut a track thro
to edge of scrub. Cut about
100 yds then head back to

camp for breakfast.
After breakfast packed up + started off
to find Lead 2 mch.
Got badly fooled for some
time as when D light off
nothing back was some 200 yds
from edge of perch.

Monday 6 A.M. Walk at daylight
Breakfast & out of [illegible]
or other work of [illegible]
Start at [illegible]
noon

Wednesday 8th. Made daylight & made on early start. Soon struck a head for the head. Soon struck trouble, a mangrove swamp. Struck a path that goes thro a village of Siamese to get nearly all the way. They have got having tapped on one place. Had to head a few mangroves for over a mile. Then falling so road a couple of hours & then to a long edge of mangroves where up to below the waist for about a mile. Then struck to Cape Sedawah about 3 miles distant

Monday 4. Leaving Lerwick
Passed Fair Isle
After breakfast I was left for the
day again.

17 W. 20 Ave. [illegible]

[illegible]

" " " " "

" " Brown bird nest.

" " Brown bird nest

" 7 & 8 mile Brown bird nest.

17.11.26. 16 mile Lagoon Campsite

Wolfram camps.

No 3.6.11.20 Parcos river, Pretamus

Length 178 m/m Wing 113 m/m Culmen 19 m/m Tarsus 19 m/m.

Irides dark brown. Bill blunt white, tip black

Legs greyish black

Stomach remains of cicadas, Beetles & some seeds.

Shot at the nest.

Nest 8 ft from ground in forks of thin bitus. Composed of fine twigs & grass stalks from 6 to 20 inches in length, lined with very fine grass stalks. Eggs pink. Set 4. Dimensions 5 in diameter 3 in depth, ends of grass stalks & twigs protruding several inches beyond walls & bottom of nest Egg chamber 3 in diameter 1 1/2 in depth

No 4.6.11.20 Wolfram camps. Parcos river. Chlamydotis Undulata

Length 330 m/m Wing 158 m/m Culmen 30 m/m Tarsus 48 m/m

Irides dark brown. Bill brownish black, legs olive

Stomach remains of fruits & seeds.

Shot at nest.

♂ 20.10.20 Parson river. Pittosporum 8

Length 320 mm Wing 167 mm Culmen 50 mm Tarsus 40

Irides, brown. Bill, black - Legs, slaty black.

Stomach insect remains & seeds of fruit

♀ 21.10.20 Parson river. Elaeocarpus 9

Length 440 mm Wing 242 mm Culmen 60 mm Tarsus 60 mm

Irides, yellow Bill, black Legs black.

Stomach, blood & feathers which it had plucked from its wounded leg.

Shot at the nest.

Nest 30 ft from ground in a dendrocnide tree at edge of scrub composed of crooked & twisted sticks lined with stems of climbing fern & fine grass

Dimensions over all 13 in diameter 5 in depth.

Egg chamber 5½ in. " 3 in. "

Contained 3 eggs. Almost incubated / only blown

Coprimulgus macrurus Nest a depression on dead leaves on ground near edge of scrub

Contained 2 eggs 21.10.20 Parson river. Hatching

Mrs Walter Arthur Bly 2nd Floor
Fork 88 Pyrmont
Mrs Black
214 George St Sydney
Mrs Hamilton
Whole line for cape Jacobs
Whole line for Mayers or Mayer